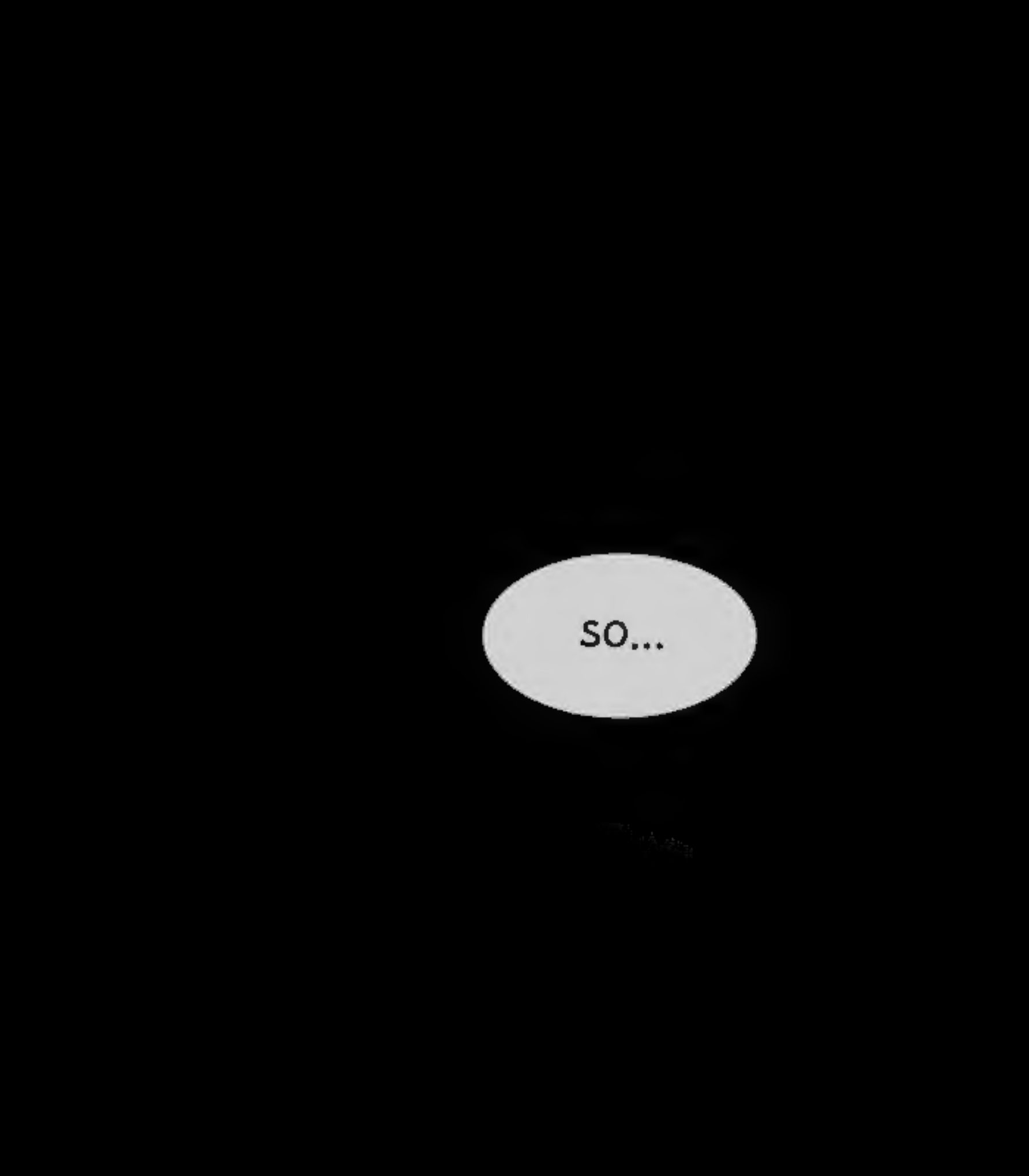
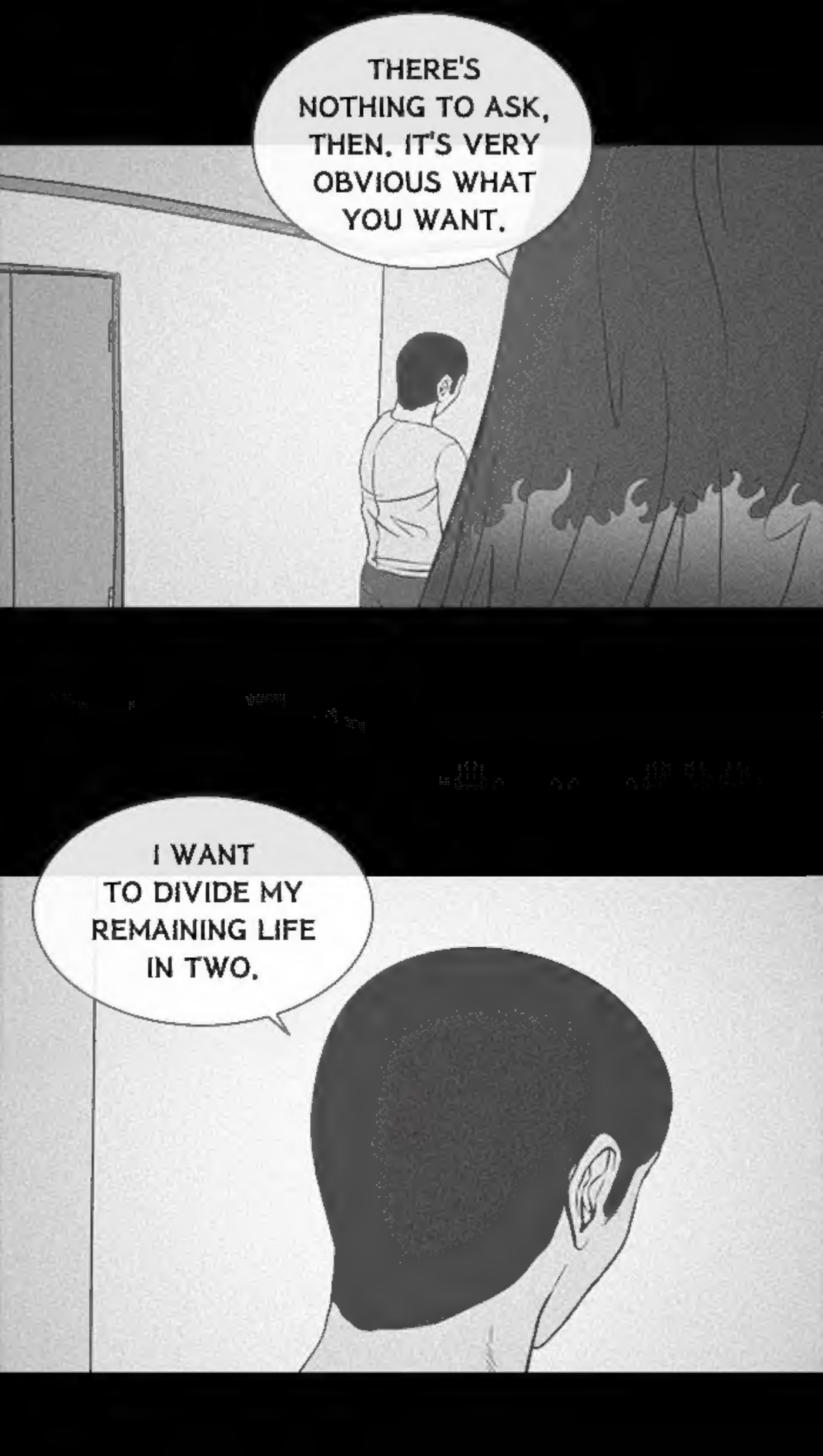

SO...

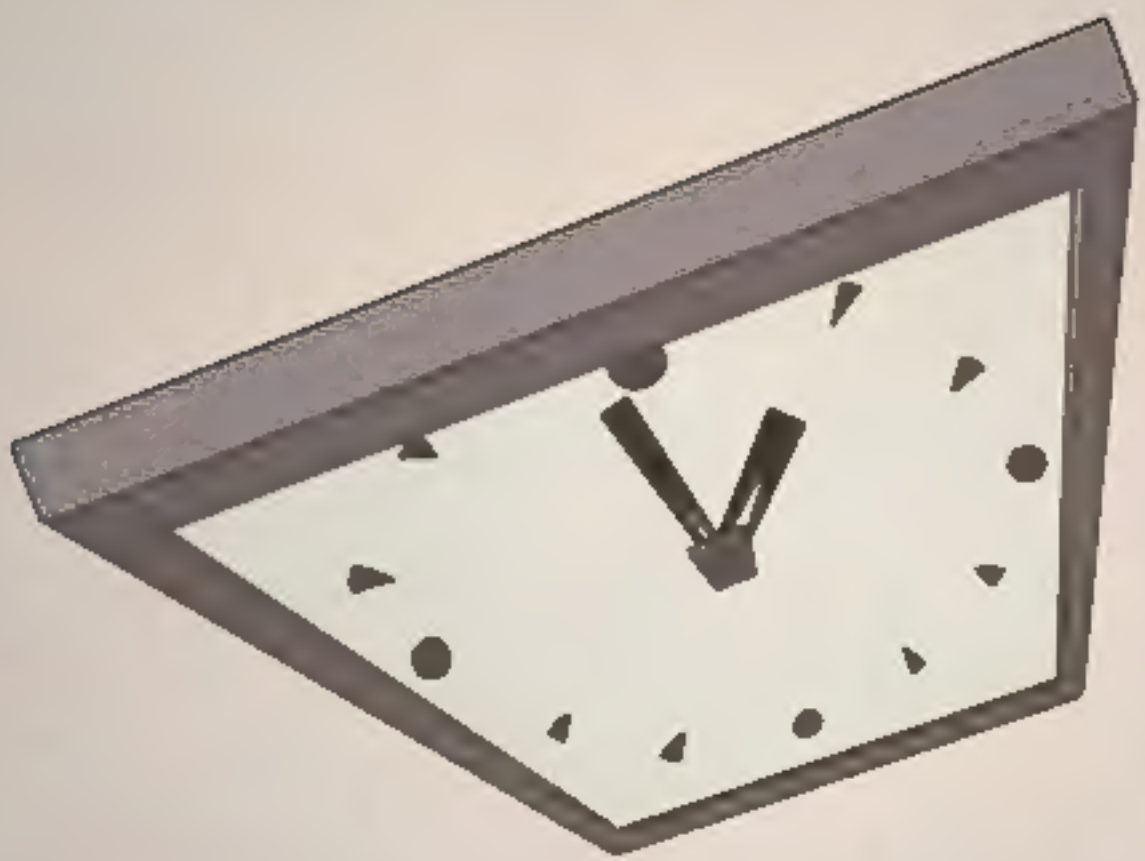

THERE'S NOTHING TO ASK, THEN. IT'S VERY OBVIOUS WHAT YOU WANT.
I WANT TO DIVIDE MY REMAINING LIFE IN TWO.

LIFE
WITHOUT HER
IS MEANINGLESS.
YOU CAN DO IT, RIGHT?
IT'S POSSIBLE,
ISN'T IT?

A HUSBAND'S WISH, FAR MORE MOVING
THAN EVEN A THOUSAND WORDS OF LOVE.

I WAS TRULY GRATEFUL TO HIM.

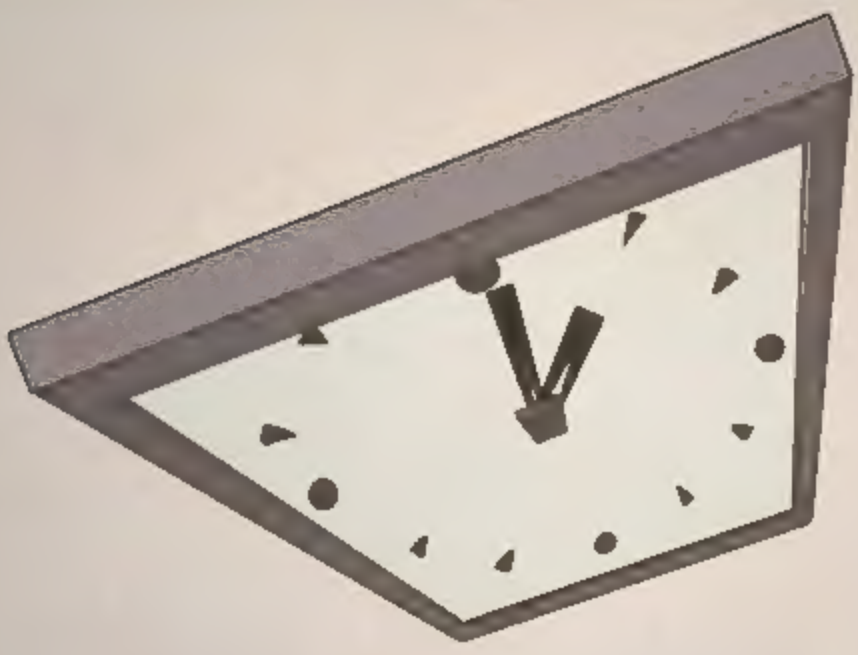
HOWEVER,



I DIDN'T THINK THAT THE LIFE THAT 'HE' DIVIDED IN TWO FOR ME WOULD BE THIS KIND OF 'HALF.'

A STRANGE LIFE WITH EACH OF US

LIVING ONE HOUR AT A TIME.



TICK-

IS 'IT'

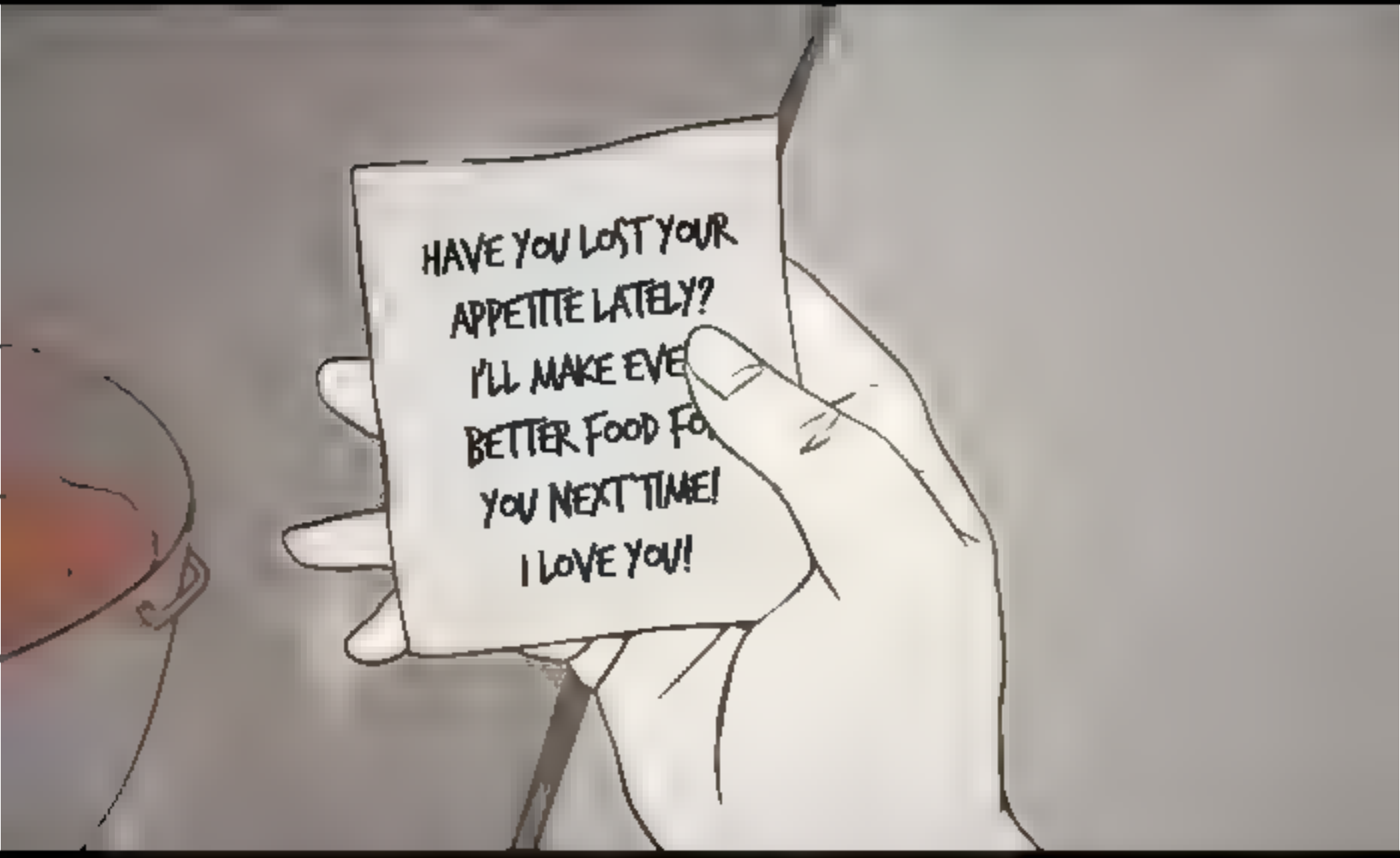
TOYING WITH US?

FRIDAY
FORBIDDEN TALES
禁曜日

089. LIFELONG COMPANION (2)

THERE ARE EXPRESSIONS....

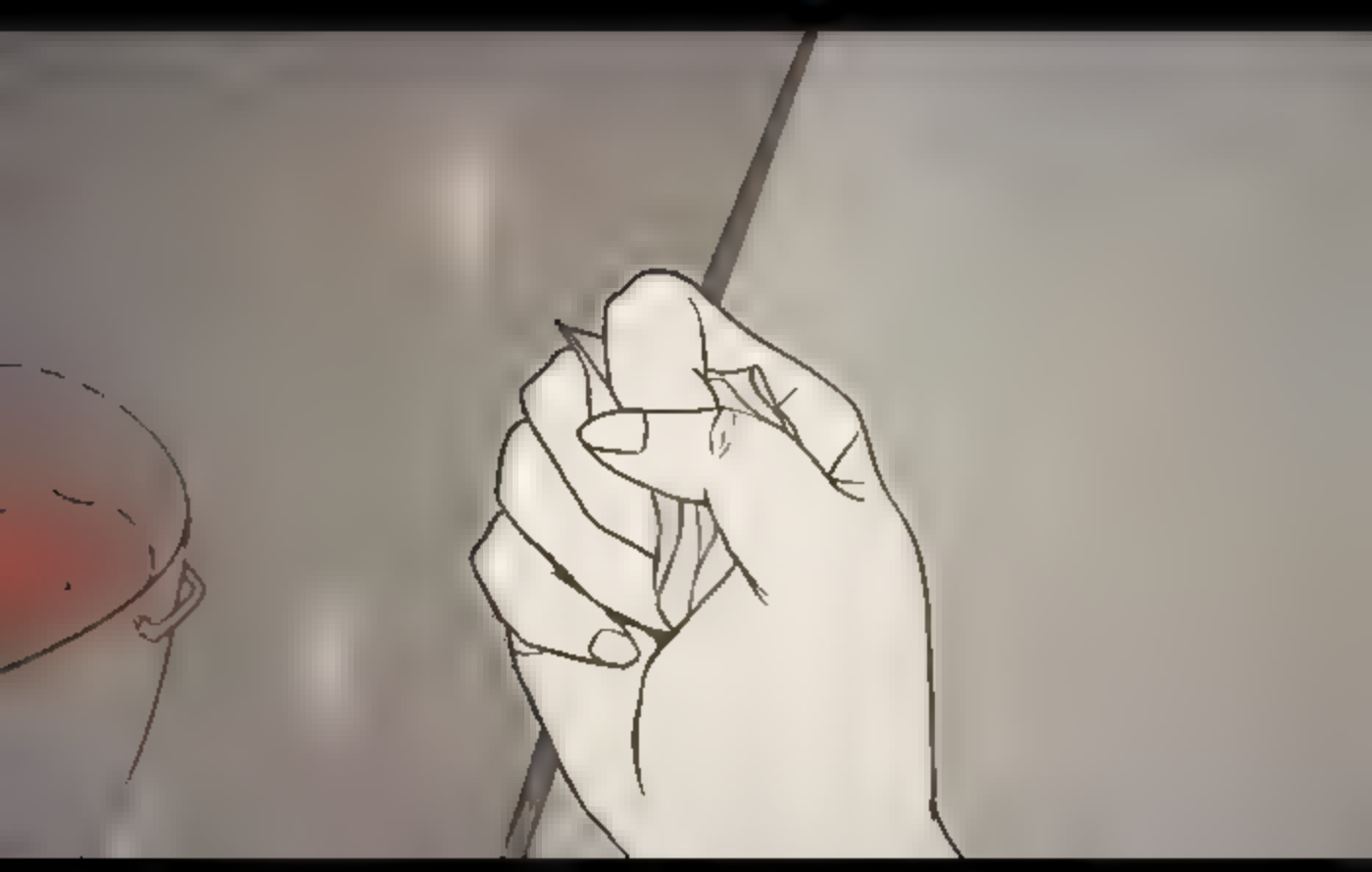
WHICH ARE COMMONLY USED WHEN
YOU DECIDE ABOUT LOVE TOO HASTILY.



LOVE, A PURE AND BEAUTIFUL LOVE WHICH IS FELT
EVEN WHEN YOU JUST LOOK AT ONE ANOTHER,
EVEN WHEN YOU'RE IN THE SAME SPACE,
EVEN IF YOU DON'T SAY A WORD.

DO YOU THINK THAT'S POSSIBLE?

NO, THAT'S JUST A POETIC EXPRESSION.

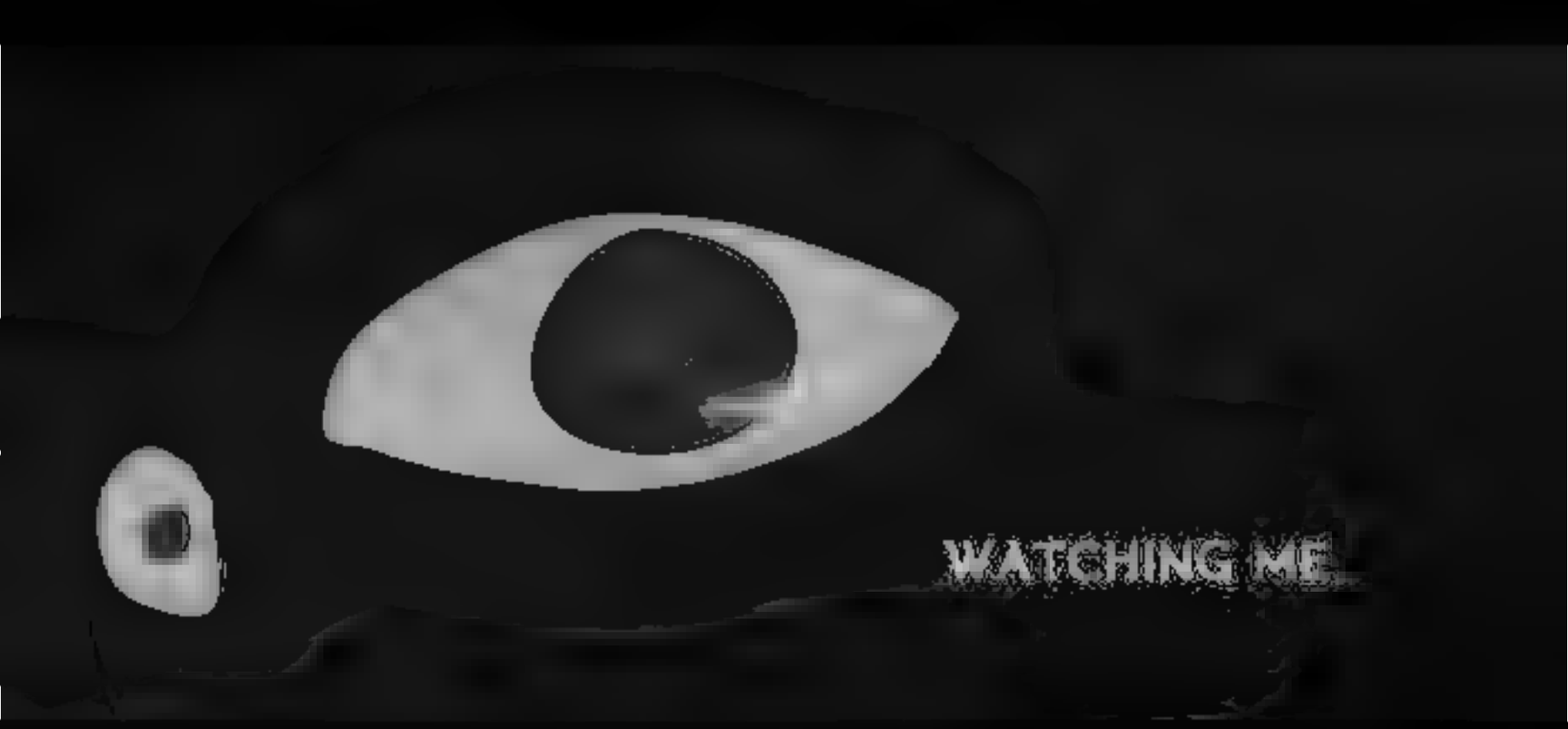


THE REALITY, IS A TERRIFYING
FEELING OF LIVING WITH A CORPSE,

WHENEVER I WAKE UP DURING 'MY' TIME,

EXCEPT WHEN HE'S AT WORK, HE'S ALMOST ALWAYS

ALWAYS
ALWAYS



MY HUSBAND ENDLESSLY STAYS
BY MY SIDE AND WATCHES ME,

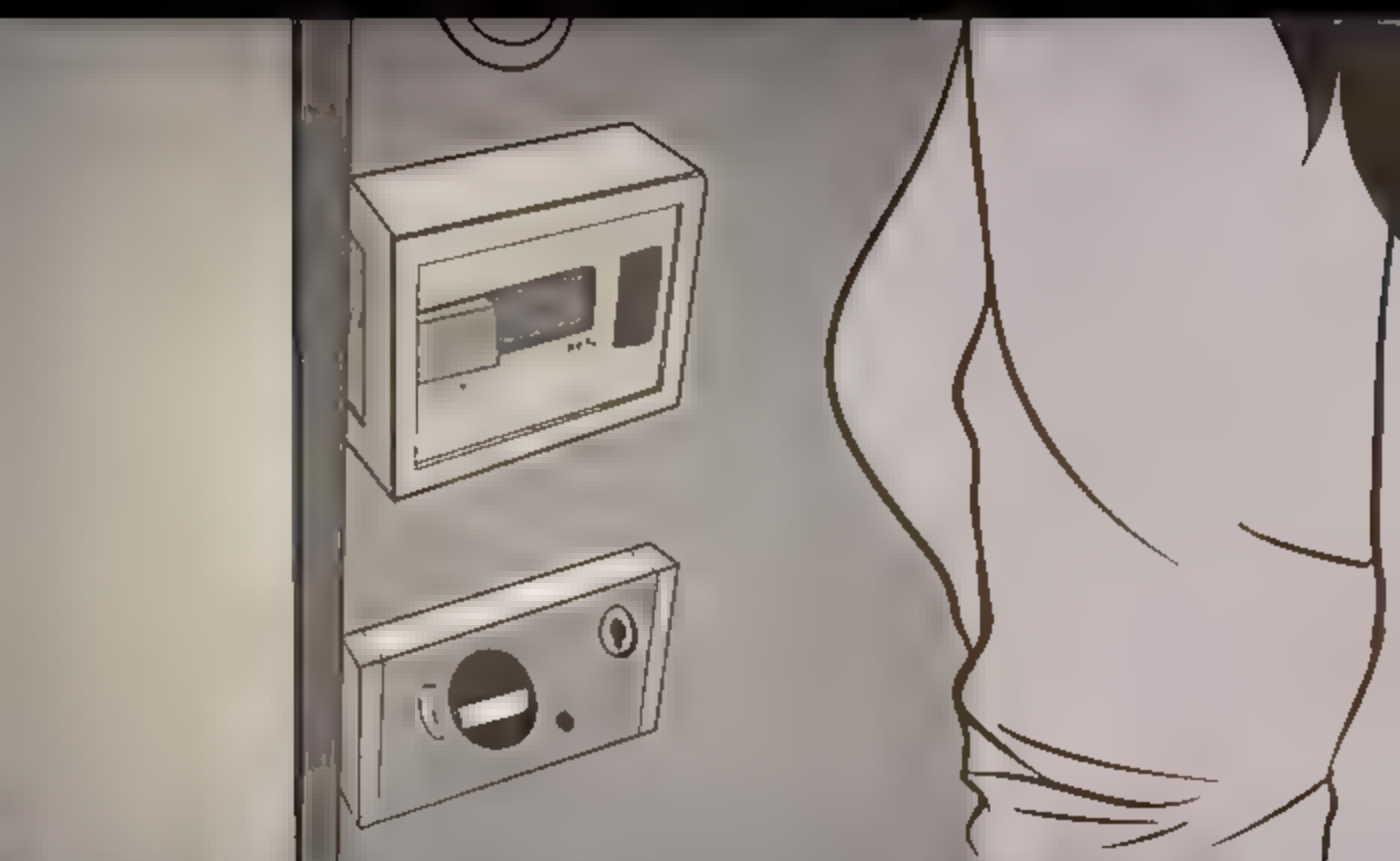
BUT TO THE PERSON RECEIVING
SUCH ONE-SIDED ATTENTION,
WHETHER GREAT OR SMALL,
IT ONLY SEEMS LIKE MADNESS.

FOR THE SIN OF FAILING TO STOP HIS MADNESS,

HIS OBSESSION WITH 'THAT,'

I HAVE BEEN IMPRISONED IN THIS HOUSE,

WITH HIS GAZE,

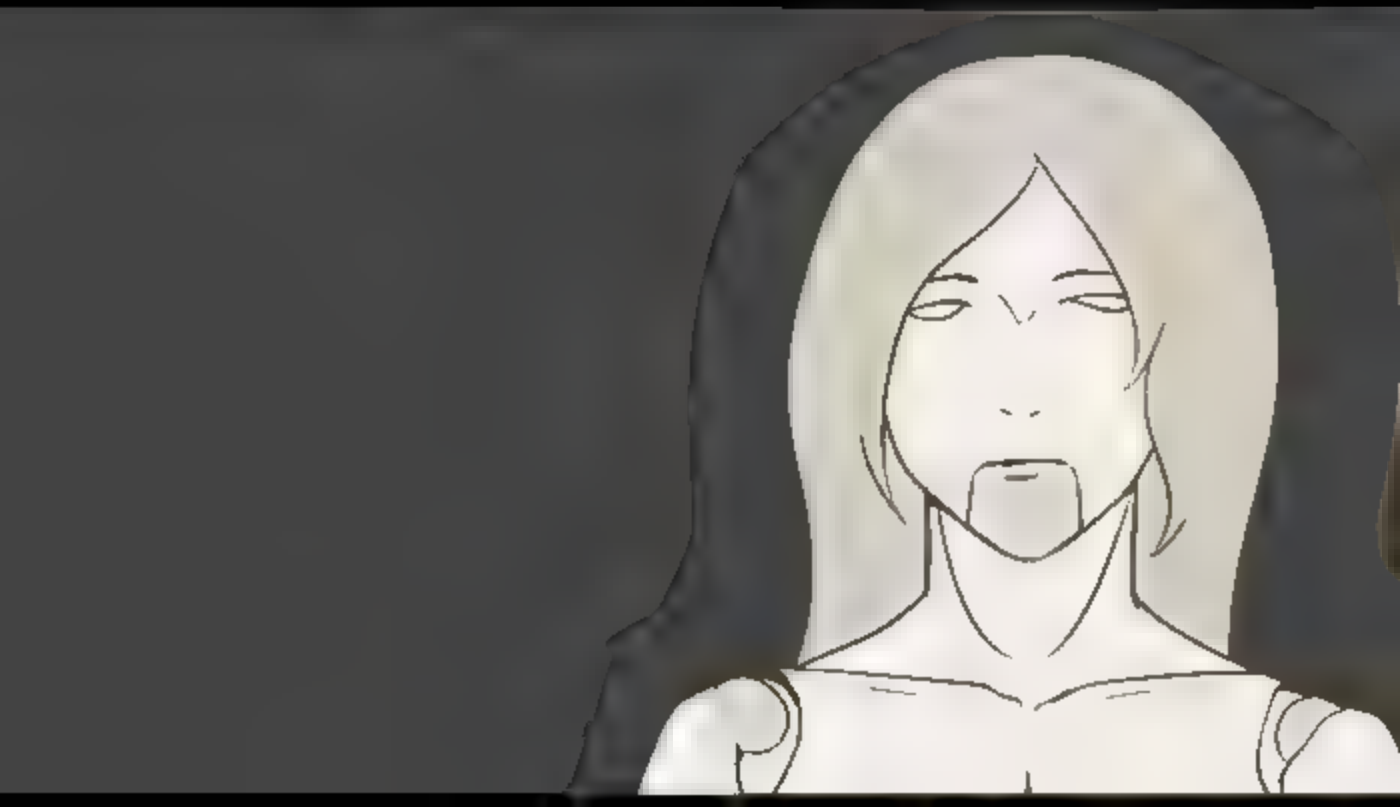


I SIMPLY LIVE AS A DOLL,
DEPENDENT ON HIM.

I CAN'T LIVE A SINGLE DAY IN A WORLD WITHOUT YOU. I DON'T REGRET IT. IF YOU HAD DIED THAT DAY, I WOULD HAVE DIED WITH YOU, TOO. DON'T WORRY ANYMORE. I'LL FEED YOU, CLOTHE YOU, LOOK AFTER YOU, AND LOVE YOU FOR OUR WHOLE LIVES. LET'S LIVE A HAPPY LIFE AND THEN TRAVEL TOGETHER SOMEDAY TO A PLACE FROM WHERE THERE'S NO RETURN. I THINK THAT WOULD BE A BLESSING. IT'S A BLESSING FROM GOD TO BE ABLE TO CLOSE YOUR EYES AT THE EXACT SAME MOMENT AS THE PERSON THAT YOU REALLY LOVE. I LOVE YOU.

I CAN'T DO ANYTHING,
I CAN'T MEET ANYONE,

I DON'T NEED TO DO ANYTHING,
I DON'T NEED TO MEET ANYONE,



THAT'S RIGHT, I'M HIS DOLL.

IS HE SATISFIED WITH THIS LIFE?

THIS MEANINGLESS COHABITATION,
WITHOUT COMMUNICATION OR EXCHANGE. HOW?

HONEY,
I....

I'M SORRY.
I CAN'T DO THIS
ANYMORE....

I CAN'T STAND THIS
ANYMORE....

AT THE TIME, THERE WAS JUST
ONE THOUGHT ON MY MIND.

SHOULD I JUST DIE?

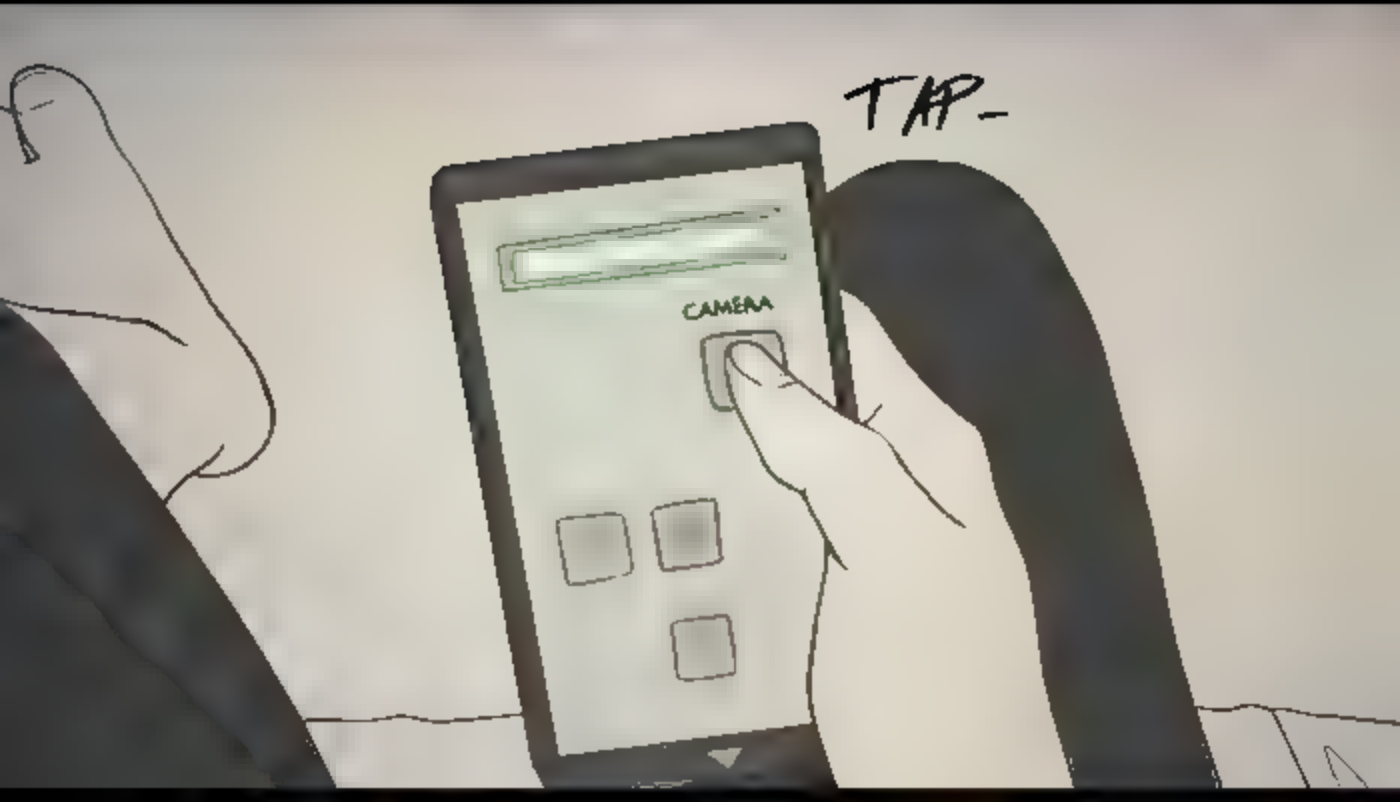
IF I DO, THEN I WOULD BE FREE,

AND HE WOULD GET BACK HIS OWN LIFE.

SO, SHOULD I JUST DIE?

BUT BEFORE THAT,

THERE WAS ONE LAST THING
THAT I WANTED TO CHECK.

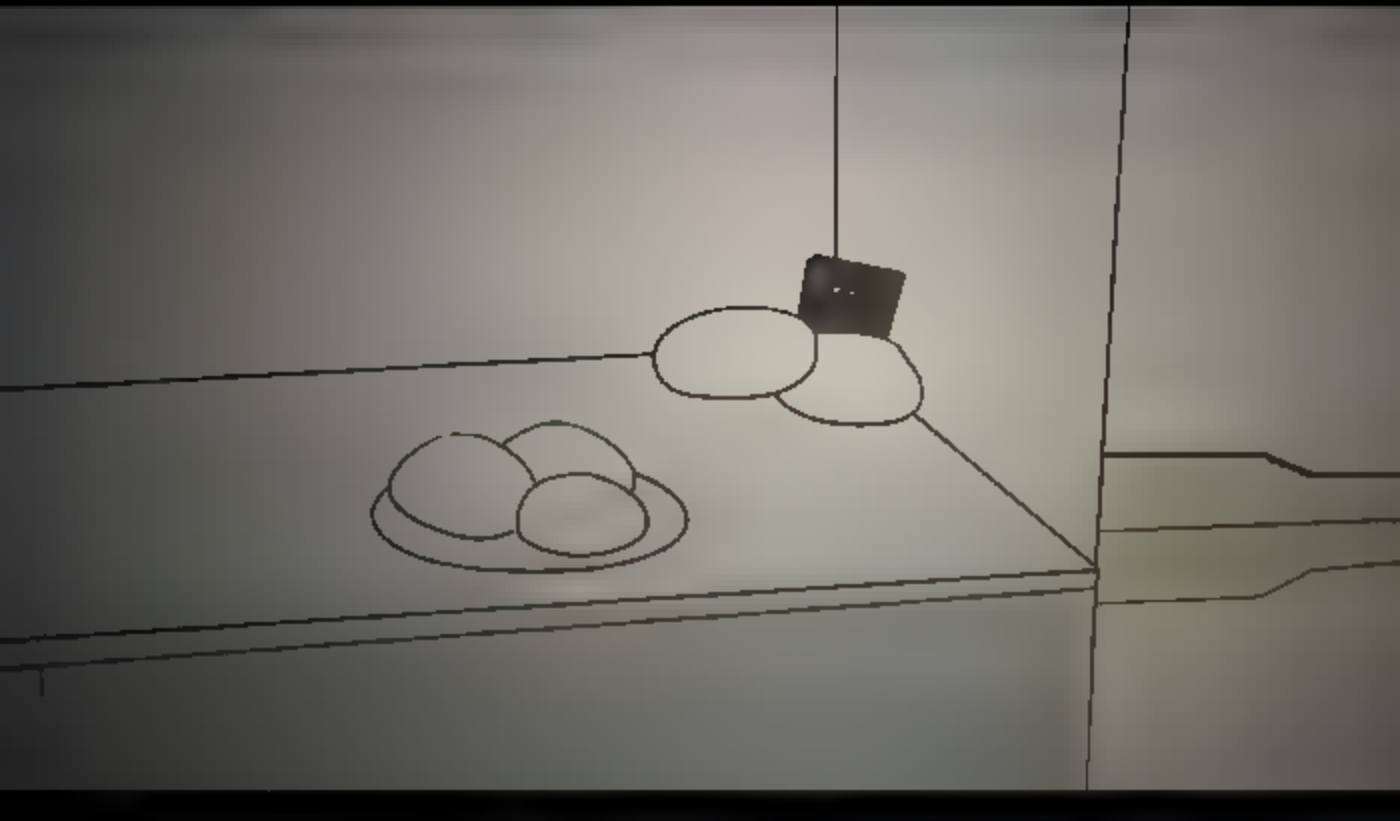


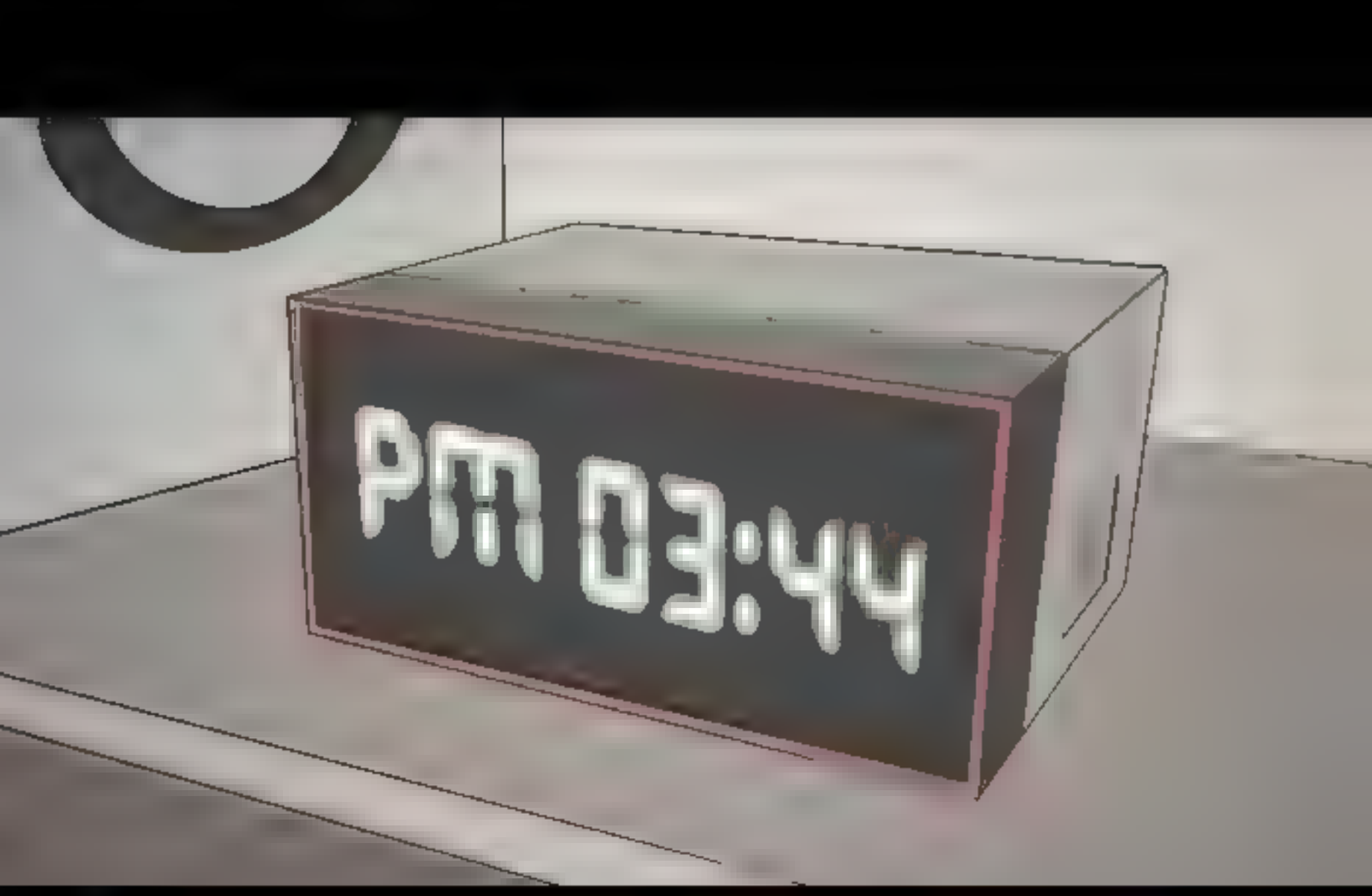
I WANTED TO WATCH MY HUSBAND DURING THAT HOUR WHEN MY CONSCIOUSNESS WAS GONE.

PARTLY OUT OF A SENSE OF DESPERATION THAT PERHAPS

I COULD CHANGE MY MIND IF I SAW HIS EXTREME DEVOTION WITH MY OWN EYES.

PARTLY OUT OF DESPAIR THAT
I COULD FIRMLY MAKE UP MY MIND IF
I SAW THE WAY HE MISTREATS
MY UNCONSCIOUS BODY.

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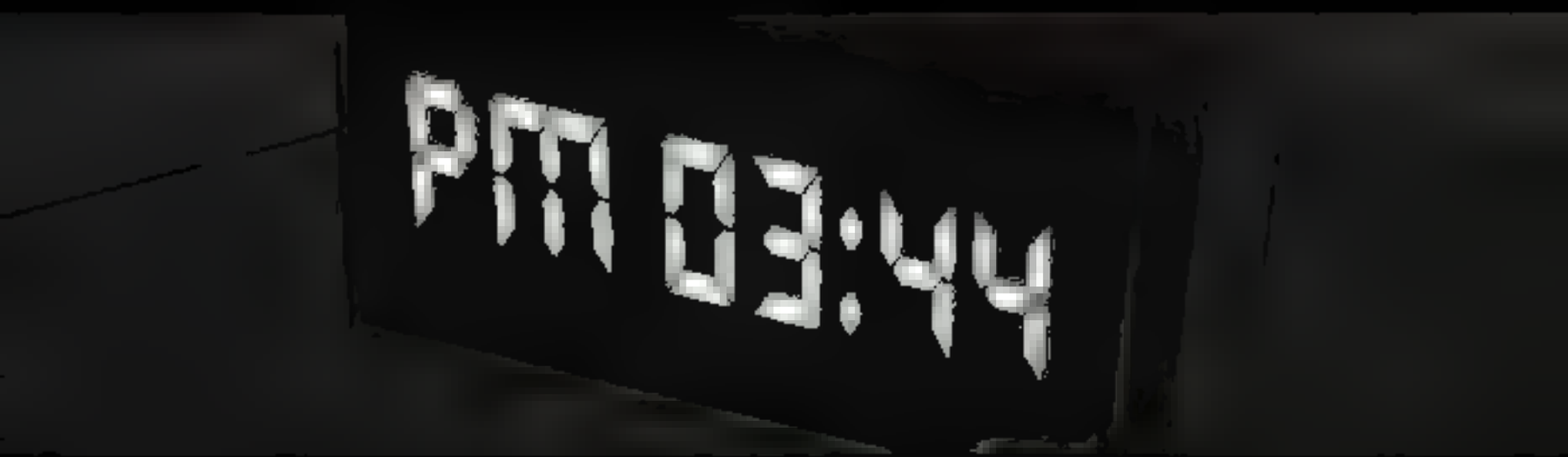
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HOWEVER, THE RESULT WAS SO SHOCKING

THAT I WASN'T EVEN ABLE TO
DECIDE BETWEEN ONE OR OTHER.

COME ON IN.
I'VE BEEN WAITING
FOR YOU.
ARE WE
DOING IT ALL
TOGETHER TODAY?
OR JUST THE TWO
OF US AGAIN?

THE NEW CONCLUSION THAT I REACHED

WAS NEITHER 'I'M GOING TO LIVE'
NOR 'I'M GOING TO DIE,' BUT RATHER,

'I'M GOING TO KILL HIM.'

NEXT WEEK, LIFELONG COMPANION (3)

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